

OLL 85-3892/1
19 December 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DoL Views Letter on H.R. 1524 & S. 1815 -
Transmitting Agency Views to OMB

1. On December 18, 1985, I spoke with Brandon Blum, Legislative Analyst, Office of Management and Budget (OMB). I conveyed to him the Agency's position on the views letter of the Department of Labor on H.R. 1524 and S. 1815, two bills to ban the private use of polygraphs, as follows.

2. I said that the Agency had no objection to the letter. I noted that the Agency was concerned, though, about the Department's position on the application of standards for exams and examiners. Specifically, while the Agency did not object to the Department's advocacy of the application of such standards to the private sector, it would object were the Department to go further by advocating their application in the statute to the government. Mr. Blum indicated that OMB shared this concern and had therefore directed that the last sentence on the first page of the letter be amended to read as follows (new matter underlined): "...we would like to see standards and limitations set for the uses of the polygraph, as well as for the examiners themselves where they are not otherwise in place" (new matter underlined). While this was not as strong as it could have been, it was sufficient and I therefore concurred in it.

3. I also noted in passing that I saw no reason for the Labor letter to address the Senate bill, S. 1815, at this point. Mr. Blum had no good answer for why the letter had to address both bills, other than the statement that if it did not clear OMB in time to affect the House bill, it could be used vis a vis the Senate bill.

Legislation Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

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